

Instructions for CDC Varicella Outbreak Reporting Worksheet

Prompt identification, investigation, and control of chickenpox outbreaks are important. Even mild cases can be contagious. CDC works with state health departments to monitor chickenpox outbreaks. For more information, see the [Chapter on Varicella](#) in the Manual for the Surveillance of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases.

States are encouraged to report chickenpox outbreaks to CDC quarterly or annually. The [Varicella Outbreak Reporting Worksheet](#) should be submitted to CDC by a state health department.

Instructions for CDC Chickenpox (Varicella) Outbreak Reporting Worksheet

Instructions for State Health Departments:

We encourage state health departments to complete and submit the CDC chickenpox (varicella) outbreak reporting worksheet to CDC on a quarterly or annual basis. Contact information is located at the bottom of the outbreak reporting worksheet. Please report outbreaks after they have resolved so that the worksheet contains the final information about the outbreak.

CDC defines chickenpox outbreaks as 5 or more chickenpox cases that are epidemiologically linked. If your definition of a chickenpox outbreak differs, please include that information with the submitted worksheet.

We are most interested in the annual number of outbreaks occurring in your state, but we are also interested in learning about the characteristics of the outbreak, such as distribution in age, vaccination status, and severity of disease in the cases.

Thank you for your willingness to report chickenpox outbreaks to CDC.

Instructions for Schools and Other Reporting Sources:

Please report chickenpox outbreaks to your state or local health department.

The CDC chickenpox outbreak reporting worksheet should be submitted to CDC by your state health department.